



Great Public Schools Now

CHARTER SCHOOL START-UP & SINGLE-SITE EXPANSION

PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

Applications are considered on a rolling basis. Please submit completed application to
Lauren Tate (ltate@greatpublicschoolsnow.org).

GreatPublicSchoolsNow.org



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PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION

PROJECT INFORMATION

Contact information	Name:	
	Title:	
	Phone:	
	Email:	
Proposed school	School name:	
	Grades served:	
	Enrollment (at full capacity):	
	Opening year:	
	Target neighborhood:	
Authorization	Target Authorizer / District:	
	Target Authorization Date (month & year):	
Network (if applicable)	Network or CMO Affiliation:	
	School number (second, third, etc.):	

OVERVIEW

1. **Mission & Vision** – What is the mission and vision for your proposed school? Please describe why you want to start this school, who you intend to serve, and the impact you intend to have.

2. **Addressing a need** – What is innovative or unique about the proposed school? Why is the new school needed in Los Angeles?

3. **School design** – Provide a brief overview of the core elements of your proposed school's design and education program.

4. **School community** – Please describe the school community you intend to serve, including the expected student demographics (% eligible for reduced price lunch, etc.). What connections do you have to this area or student population?

5. **Demonstrated support** – What support do you have for your proposed school? Please include evidence of support (parents, partnerships, support from funders, elected officials, community leaders, etc.).

REPLICATION (FOR APPLICANTS WITH AN EXISTING SCHOOL)

6. **Current school(s)** – Which schools do you currently operate? Please provide evidence that your current school(s) is high performing, including the % proficient in 2016-17 in ELA and Math. What areas of growth have you identified in your existing school's academic data? What lessons have you learned and how will you apply lessons learned as you expand?

7. **Approach to growth** – Please describe how the school you are proposing is connected to your existing school(s) in enrollment, design, etc. Why are you replicating? Which elements of the existing site(s) are you proposing to replicate?

LEADERSHIP CAPACITY & FOUNDING TEAM

8. **Founding team** - Please describe the founding team, their relevant experience, and their expected roles. If there are major gaps in your founding team’s expertise, describe how you will address them. Diverse teams and teams led by leaders of color will receive priority; please also indicate race/ethnicity of key leaders. Please attach all relevant resumes.

9. **Founding team expertise** - Please rate the current team’s expertise in the following areas:

Skills & Expertise	Rate 1 to 5 the level of expertise on your founding team (5=high, 1=low)	List team member experts as applicable
EDUCATION		
School Administration		
Teaching & Instruction		

Curriculum Design		
Special Populations (Special Ed, ELL, etc.)		
School Finance		
COMMUNITY OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT		
Deep knowledge of community needs		
Network of parent support from local community		
FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT		
Grant Writing		
Donor Relations		
LEGAL		
Incorporation		
Compliance		
Charter Law		
Board Governance		
OTHER		
Project Management		
Strategic Planning		
Financial Management/Budgeting		
Real Estate/Facilities		
Nonprofit Management		
Marketing & Communications (website, social media, etc.)		

APPROACH TO PLANNING

10. Approach to planning – Planning grants are intended to augment applicant capacity to build out their school models and gain the necessary support to submit successful charter petitions. Please describe how you will approach further planning of your school if awarded funds by GPSN. Outline the activities you hope to accomplish prior to submitting a charter petition, including how you will ensure that there is demonstrated need/community support for the proposed program.

11. **Milestones** – Please describe the critical milestones during your planning period. Highlight both major milestones you have already completed, as well as milestones you intend to complete.

Activity	Completion Date (Actual if completed, intended if not)	Owner	Description

12. **Reflections** – What challenges or risks do you anticipate as you undertake this effort?

BUDGET

13. **Budget** – Please outline how you would utilize a \$50,000 planning grant – allowable activities may include, but are not limited to, salaries, community outreach activities, and consulting support to fill gaps in expertise or capacity. While flexible, funds should not be used to outsource wholly or in large part the petition-writing process itself.

Line item	Amount	Description

Total		
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14. **Additional fundraising** – What additional sources of startup funds have you secured or are you expecting?

Source	Amount	Status (secured, expected, etc.)	Description
Total			

ATTACHMENTS

Please attach the following to your application:

- Resumes of founding team
- Academic performance data of team members who will serve as instructional leaders. Preferred format is a “data one-pager” with a narrative overview and supporting graphs/data of proficiency and student growth for the classes, grade levels or schools managed.